

local assembly in the region arose by all it held sacred to remain on strike until Mr. Mitchell or his delegates tell them to return to work.

Then suddenly, after receiving a message and at a few minutes' notice, President Mitchell and his three district presidents dashed off to New York city on a mission which sent them away happy and radiant with hope.

What it was that called them to New York President Mitchell would not say nor would he give any intimation as to whom the message came. He had nothing to say about the trip except:

"I'm going to New York."

A move to which the strike leaders gave much prominence had been planned for to-day. It was the action of the locals upon the request of President Mitchell to reaffirm their allegiance to the union and their determination to remain on strike until their demands are granted.

President Mitchell was to have made a statement of the resolutions to-night, and they were to be given to the newspapers in full if they desired them. At 2 P. M., however, came the mysterious message and then Mitchell wasted no time in preparing for his departure. There are the usual crop of false rumors around in consequence of the meetings and Mitchell's departure and it is whispered about town that he is even whispered about town to-night by men who say they dare not tell how they know that J. Pierpont Morgan has invited the strikers' officials to a conference with him.

MITCHELL HAS SAID NO TO ROOSEVELT.

This afternoon President Mitchell completed his reply to President Roosevelt's proposition to have the strikers return to work pending investigation into conditions by a commission which President Roosevelt would appoint. While President Mitchell would not make the answer public or indicate what he said, it is known that he refused the proposition, although telling the President for his endeavor in bringing the strike to an end. He assured the President that the strikers were now in such a position that they felt assured of victory and that they would not be able to retreat from the position they held without fatal loss to themselves. This reply was mailed and will reach President Roosevelt to-morrow morning.

ANSWER OF THE LOCAL UNIONS.

The telegrams bearing the resolutions of the local unions in the region were all in this evening and were turned over to the newspaper men for examination. They are all alike, declaring their faith in the justice of their cause, their determination to remain on strike until the concessions are granted and their allegiance to the union and to Mitchell. Many of them speak of the presence of troops, declaring that they are not necessary and that they have been brought here to bolster up the operators, that the reports of violence which caused them to be sent to the region were greatly exaggerated, and that the strikers were not responsible for them. They declare that if all the troops in the United States were sent to the region they would not be able to return to work, as they were determined to stay out.

Not a telegram expressed any doubt as to the future of the strike, and it was by which they were passed, nor did they quote the number present out of the total membership. It is understood that a large number of men had been sent to the region, knowing that the union officers would suggest the resolutions, decided not to go to the meetings and cause discussion but to remain away from the meetings and wait until the troops arrive so that they may return to work.

TROOPS WILL MAKE NO DIFFERENCE.

Of the situation Mr. Mitchell said: "Telegrams sent to me from the various meetings in various sections of the anthracite coal region convey the information that by the unanimous vote of the men on strike, all of whom are contented, at least in the United States Army in the anthracite coal regions would not induce the men to return to work. The demands of the Shamokin Convention had been met, the strike declared off by a delegate convention of Mine Workers or by the district and national officers. Similar telegrams are constantly being received, and it is expected that every mining town will be heard from by 6 o'clock to-night. Thus far the returns emphasize and substantiate the declarations of the officials of the miners' union made at the Washington conference, that the strikers are not deterred from going to work through fear of bodily harm."

To-day the reinforcements of troops to this part of the region began arriving. The First Battalion of the Twelfth Regiment and Battery C, reaching this city, where they will be followed to-morrow by the remainder of the Third Brigade from the Schuylkill region, and Gen. Gobin and staff, who will establish headquarters in this city.

NO NEW COLLIERIES TO BE OPENED YET.

Pending the coming of the troops the operators are making no effort to resume work at any new collieries. The men at the present working collieries are being kept in number and collieries which are to be worked are being cleaned and prepared. A number of men were to-day placed in the Mount Lebanon colliery, the coal and iron company and all is ready for a resumption. Collieries of the larger coal carrying companies are ready to work as soon as the troops are sent to them and the men expected to work are within the stockades.

In the Hazleton region the Jeddo colliery, owned by John Marking the Lattimer of Pardee & Co., were to-day cleared and prepared for work. The Lattimer there arrived at daybreak the First Regiment, Col. Bowman commanding, and companies were promptly stationed at Jeddo, Lattimer, Cranberry and the Lehigh Valley shops.

This afternoon the house of John Bauer, a non-union worker at the West End colliery, had both his legs crushed. He was killed by dynamite. It was the first dynamiting case in the upper coal field.

Sol Bacharach, special messenger for Gov. Stone, today received a message from him and from Wilkes-Barre that the conditions were peaceful, the men quiet and orderly and no crowds gathering.

HOOTED A DEAD MAN'S FAMILY.

Non-union men killed and strikers then Jeer at his People.

TAMAQUA, Pa., Oct. 8.—One of the most disgraceful and brutal demonstrations that have occurred since the strike began took place at Lansford yesterday. While running out a trip of cars John Lees, a non-union man, was thrown to the tracks and had both his legs crushed. He was moved to his home in Summit Hill, where he died at about 6 o'clock.

Later in the evening a mob of about 200 men marched to the home of the dead man. They were headed by a drum corps. Halting in front of the house they hooted Lees' family, beat the drums and cried out: "He was a scab and deserved to die."

The demonstration lasted about a half hour. To-day acts of violence still continue in this region. To-day when an attempt was made to take out a train of coal at the North Mahanoy colliery, a mob gathered on the tracks. Three companies of the Twelfth Regiment, under the command of Major Sparks, were taken to the scene.

The soldiers lined up along the tracks and kept the mob back while the cars were being run out on to the main tracks. Guards were then stationed at each coupling and the train was run south to Philadelphia.

At the Potts colliery similar trouble was experienced. To-day a mob of about 100 men gathered on the tracks. They were headed by a drum corps. Halting in front of the house they hooted Lees' family, beat the drums and cried out: "He was a scab and deserved to die."

REBUFF FOR STRIKE SETTLERS

OPERATORS DECLINE A REQUEST TO GO 100 MILES TO SEE THEM.

President Baer Who Is Only a Few Blocks Away Ignores the Attempt of the "Manufacturers' Committee" to But Into the Strike—They Have a Proposal.

The presidents of the coal companies remained late in their offices yesterday, but they had little to say about the strike. The course of the day they received telegrams sent from Albany by the committee of the National Association of Manufacturers, which has been conferring with President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers, inviting them to meet the committee to-day in Philadelphia. This is a sample telegram:

Our committee of the conference here desires to meet you to-morrow at 10 A. M. at the Manufacturers' Club, Philadelphia. Have sent similar telegrams to Messrs. Baer, Thomas, Markle, Olyphant, etc. This is very urgent.

A representative of the New York, Ontario and Western Railroad said that the presidents wouldn't go, and there was no reason why they should accept the invitation. If President Roosevelt could not change their minds, it would only be a waste of time to go.

"Any merchants' association might send out such an invitation," said this man. "If a Yorkville association of grocers sent out an invitation to a conference we might accept it, but they could not change the situation."

President Olyphant of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company suggested that if the merchants wanted to see the operators they might come here.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 8.—The members of the Committee of Manufacturers who were to Buffalo to confer with the leaders of the striking miners journeyed here last night and arrived at the Manufacturers' Club early this morning.

They breakfasted and sat down to wait the coming of Mr. Baer and the representatives of the other coal-carrying roads. An hour they waited, and then, not hearing anything from the president of the Reading company, they sent a messenger over to the Reading Terminal to ascertain why Mr. Baer had failed to appear in response to their invitation. The messenger saw Mr. Baer's secretary and returned in a short time with an answer.

What the answer was has not been made public, but that it was not satisfactory to the manufacturers was evident. They waited some more and, then, growing impatient, sent another messenger over to Mr. Baer's office. This time the messenger failed to get an answer and returned disconsolate to the Walnut street building.

Efforts were made to get a statement from Mr. Parry, chairman of the committee that saw Mitchell, but he wanted to wait a while longer before talking, to see if any of the operators came. Meanwhile Mr. Baer was in his office, where he met John Lowber Welsh and other members of the Reading board, and about noon his wife and daughter, who had come down from Reading to do some shopping, called and stayed in his office a short time. Soon after they left, Mr. Baer was called by Mr. Welsh, and former president Harris of the Reading company. When on his way to the dining room he was asked if he intended to confer with the Manufacturers' committee.

"I do not know anything about any conference," was his reply, and so far as he was concerned, the men in the Manufacturers' Club had no right to call on him. He said that he was waiting about his work of the day completely ignoring the fact that they had waited for his appearance.

Later in the afternoon, when the committee began to comprehend that their efforts to get into the controversy between the operators and the miners would be contained at least by Mr. Baer, Mr. Parry made a statement in which he said that to-day's attempt at meeting with the operators had failed because the meeting had not been called. He announced that he and his committee would wait again to-morrow to see the operators. He said that in his opinion the strike situation had not reached a crisis and that there would be a change in a few days.

Frank Leake, who was the representative of the Philadelphia Manufacturers' Club at the meeting in this city, was somewhat outspoken than Mr. Parry and not so diplomatic. He said:

"We are here to make a proposition to the operators whereby the coal could be ended satisfactorily to both parties immediately interested. If the operators were as willing to listen to propositions as the miners are, the strike would be settled in three days."

Mr. Leake declined to say what the proposition is that they intend to make to the operators.

ARRIVAL OF THE TROOPS.

Most of Them Received in Silence—Where They Are Placed.

SHAMOKIN, Pa., Oct. 8.—The southwestern region of the anthracite coal field is under complete control of National Guardsmen to-night. Three thousand soldiers from the United States Army are posted in the coal region here and are posted in all important towns between here and Shamokin, twenty-nine miles from here.

The troops were received in silence by strikers, most of whom remained at home as the guardsmen arrived. The train conveying the artillery attracted the most attention and seemed to awe the foreign strikers more than anything else. Each train was closely guarded by soldiers, who sat with loaded rifles to shoot anyone attempting to throw stones at the train.

Decked with medals won through conduct in the Philippines, the "Fighting Tenth" Regiment, in command of Col. Barnett, arrived here at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon. At 3:10 P. M. the regiment left the cars and marched up Market street. There were no cheers for the soldiers.

Thirty United Mine Workers' locals with a membership of 18,000 men between here and Mount Carmel, met this afternoon in special session and adopted resolutions to remain on strike, and adding:

"We condemn the action of the State authorities in placing the troops in our quiet and peaceful borough."

Owing to the non-arrival of troops before daybreak the operators of the Royal Oak coal mines did not risk attempting to start up the mines to-day, but may do so to-morrow. George West, William Dand and Albert Wert, non-unionists at the Abouli colliery, were assaulted so badly last night by strikers that they will not be able to return to work for some time.

TAMAQUA, Pa., Oct. 8.—Gen. John W. Schell, commanding the First Brigade, is conferring with the First, Second, Third and Sixth regiments, the First City Troop and a sixth regiment of Battery A, has opened his headquarters here. The general is engaged in distributing the troops throughout the district assigned to him. He says that his plan will be to guard every colliery and the railroad tracks leading to them, and to protect all men who desire to go to work.

Each regimental commander has been instructed to disperse all riotous gatherings and not to allow the striking men to congregate. If it is found necessary the troops will guard all coal trains until they are outside the region.

PORTSMOUTH, Pa., Oct. 8.—The Second Regiment of Philadelphia is encamped near New Philadelphia and the Third Regiment is encamped near the Lehigh Valley shops. The latter command marched from the station to their

WHY NOT BURN OILED BRICKS?

THERE IS AN EASY WAY OF USING THE STOVE WITHOUT COAL.

Soak a Terra Cotta Slab in Kerosene for a Few Seconds and It Will Blaze Long Enough to Cook a Dinner—Briekyard Man Who Told The Sun About It Best.

There need be no more worry about having to cook the dinner without coal. The washerwomen who didn't expect to be able to iron and heat the boiler much longer with anthracite at \$20 and more a ton may rest easy. As long as kerosene oil is cheap and the brickmakers keep at it, nobody's stove need be cold.

With one of the ordinary terra-cotta bricks with which fireproof buildings are largely constructed and less than a cent's worth of kerosene you can cook a dinner, heat the boiler and be comfortably warm for nearly an hour. With a relay of bricks and a little more kerosene the stove can be kept going all day with little more trouble than it costs to replenish the ordinary coal fire.

Why nobody proclaimed it before can hardly be explained, for the fact that very porous brick and kerosene can be used for fuel in this way has been known to the brickmakers ever since they began to manufacture these bricks years ago. But the brickmakers never thought of coming out

SHENANDOAH, Pa., Oct. 8.—The entire Second Brigade is camping in this district to-night. Col. Hulings of the Sixteenth Regiment, who is in command of the brigade during the absence of Gen. Wiley, has established his headquarters at Ashland, Gen. Gobin and his staff are still here. They will leave early to-morrow morning for their new headquarters at Wilkes-Barre.

HAZLETON, Pa., Oct. 8.—Twelve companies of the Twelfth Regiment, Col. W. P. Bowman, commanding, arrived here at an early hour this morning. While passing through Bethlehem they were met by a train, bearing the troops to this city, was stoned and several car windows were broken, but none of the occupants were hurt. Stone was also thrown at the train, a short distance from here. The coming of the troops created no excitement here.

Battalions were distributed in Lattimer, Cranberry, Jeddo and in this city, where Col. Bowman has his headquarters.

HAS'N'T HEARD FROM MITCHELL.

President May Appoint Commission Even If His Proposition Is Declined.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8.—Although the reply of John Mitchell to President Roosevelt's latest proposition for the settlement of the coal strike has not yet been received, little doubt is entertained by the President's close advisers that the reply will be unfavorable, and the discussion of the next step to be taken by the President has already begun.

It was said today on authority that the President would probably appoint a Federal commission to investigate the causes of the strike and the conditions in the anthracite region, even if Mr. Mitchell should decline to accept such action by the President as a condition of his returning to work. The proposed commission, if appointed under the act of Oct. 1, 1898, which seems to be the sole authority for its appointment, would consist of Commissioner of Labor Carlisle D. Wright and two other persons, one of whom must be a resident of Pennsylvania.

It will have the power to power precisely that (commissioner Wright had when he investigated the present strike several months ago. This power simply enables a commission to investigate the causes of the labor dispute and to report them to Congress and the President. Beyond the possible advantage of publicity, which would be given as a result of the commission's inquiry, almost the only favorable outcome that is looked for is that the President may find grounds for proposing a new proposition to the strikers.

This has been the first day for more than a week that President Roosevelt has failed to devote practically the whole time to his tireless effort to settle the coal strike in this country. He had no conference during the day. He spent the day in his study, and he was not seen by the public. The impression was given that there was no discussion of a new proposition in connection with the coal strike. It is hoped that these will accept invitations to speak. Dr. Lyman Abbott, Dr. Felix Adler and Dr. Josiah Strong.

The organizers of the meeting do not propose to disband after it is held, but may hold other meetings as long as the situation is grave.

Last night's meeting was presided over by Andrew H. Green, Mr. J. C. Samuels, who said she owned a coal mine in West Virginia, offered her coal free to the New York public through the committee. The committee did not see any use of making use of the offer, but may devise a plan later.

CHEAP COAL IN BROOKLYN.

Two Thousand Pails Sold to Poor People at Five Cents a Pail.

Signs were posted in the window of a big dry goods store at Broadway and Rockaway avenue, Brooklyn, a few days ago to the effect that, beginning with Wednesday and continuing every afternoon between the hour of 4 and 6 o'clock until the supply gave out, bucketful coal would be sold for five cents a pail.

The signs drew a crowd of over 1,000 men, women and children to the store yesterday. Baby carriages, washboilers and articles of every description were brought by the crowd. Each family was supposed to get but one pail of the coal, but many were able to get three and four pails by sending in their children one at a time.

It is estimated that about 2,000 pails of coal were sold in one hour. When the time for the sale expired, there was still a large crowd waiting in the line.

MOVE AGAINST COAL ROADS.

Pennsylvania Company Denies That It Is Any Combination or Confederacy.

ALBANY, Oct. 8.—Attorney-General Davies this afternoon adjourned until next Wednesday, at 2 P. M., the hearing upon the application of a New York newspaper that he begin proceedings to disrupt the alleged combination of coal-carrying railroads and the anthracite mine owners. C. J. Shearn, as the attorney for the complainant, was on hand at the hour set for the hearing before the Attorney-General this afternoon. The only railroad represented was the Pennsylvania, and Charles M. Ward of New York city, appeared for that company. He filed an answer for the Pennsylvania company which says that there is no combination of the coal roads.

Adjustment was taken for ten days.

BREAD UP IN BROOKLYN, TOO.

But the Hotel Bakers Have Not Raised Prices Yet and May Not Do So.

The action of the East Side bakers in increasing the price of rye bread and decreasing the size of white loaves on account of the scarcity of fuel has been imitated by bakers in the Bronx and in some sections of Brooklyn. With bread prices rising, the price of rye bread has gone up in many shops. The master bakers of Greater New York are to hold a meeting in a day or two and following their meeting the increase may become general.

The Bronx was flooded yesterday with circulars announcing the increase of the price of bread. The circulars were sent out by the bakers' association in that borough. At present, however, the large bakeries which supply hotels have not raised their prices and they are unlikely to do so.

WHY NOT BURN OILED BRICKS?

THERE IS AN EASY WAY OF USING THE STOVE WITHOUT COAL.

Soak a Terra Cotta Slab in Kerosene for a Few Seconds and It Will Blaze Long Enough to Cook a Dinner—Briekyard Man Who Told The Sun About It Best.

There need be no more worry about having to cook the dinner without coal. The washerwomen who didn't expect to be able to iron and heat the boiler much longer with anthracite at \$20 and more a ton may rest easy. As long as kerosene oil is cheap and the brickmakers keep at it, nobody's stove need be cold.

With one of the ordinary terra-cotta bricks with which fireproof buildings are largely constructed and less than a cent's worth of kerosene you can cook a dinner, heat the boiler and be comfortably warm for nearly an hour. With a relay of bricks and a little more kerosene the stove can be kept going all day with little more trouble than it costs to replenish the ordinary coal fire.

Why nobody proclaimed it before can hardly be explained, for the fact that very porous brick and kerosene can be used for fuel in this way has been known to the brickmakers ever since they began to manufacture these bricks years ago. But the brickmakers never thought of coming out

SHENANDOAH, Pa., Oct. 8.—The entire Second Brigade is camping in this district to-night. Col. Hulings of the Sixteenth Regiment, who is in command of the brigade during the absence of Gen. Wiley, has established his headquarters at Ashland, Gen. Gobin and his staff are still here. They will leave early to-morrow morning for their new headquarters at Wilkes-Barre.

HAZLETON, Pa., Oct. 8.—Twelve companies of the Twelfth Regiment, Col. W. P. Bowman, commanding, arrived here at an early hour this morning. While passing through Bethlehem they were met by a train, bearing the troops to this city, was stoned and several car windows were broken, but none of the occupants were hurt. Stone was also thrown at the train, a short distance from here. The coming of the troops created no excitement here.

Battalions were distributed in Lattimer, Cranberry, Jeddo and in this city, where Col. Bowman has his headquarters.

HAS'N'T HEARD FROM MITCHELL.

President May Appoint Commission Even If His Proposition Is Declined.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8.—Although the reply of John Mitchell to President Roosevelt's latest proposition for the settlement of the coal strike has not yet been received, little doubt is entertained by the President's close advisers that the reply will be unfavorable, and the discussion of the next step to be taken by the President has already begun.

It was said today on authority that the President would probably appoint a Federal commission to investigate the causes of the strike and the conditions in the anthracite region, even if Mr. Mitchell should decline to accept such action by the President as a condition of his returning to work. The proposed commission, if appointed under the act of Oct. 1, 1898, which seems to be the sole authority for its appointment, would consist of Commissioner of Labor Carlisle D. Wright and two other persons, one of whom must be a resident of Pennsylvania.

It will have the power to power precisely that (commissioner Wright had when he investigated the present strike several months ago. This power simply enables a commission to investigate the causes of the labor dispute and to report them to Congress and the President. Beyond the possible advantage of publicity, which would be given as a result of the commission's inquiry, almost the only favorable outcome that is looked for is that the President may find grounds for proposing a new proposition to the strikers.

This has been the first day for more than a week that President Roosevelt has failed to devote practically the whole time to his tireless effort to settle the coal strike in this country. He had no conference during the day. He spent the day in his study, and he was not seen by the public. The impression was given that there was no discussion of a new proposition in connection with the coal strike. It is hoped that these will accept invitations to speak. Dr. Lyman Abbott, Dr. Felix Adler and Dr. Josiah Strong.

The organizers of the meeting do not propose to disband after it is held, but may hold other meetings as long as the situation is grave.

Last night's meeting was presided over by Andrew H. Green, Mr. J. C. Samuels, who said she owned a coal mine in West Virginia, offered her coal free to the New York public through the committee. The committee did not see any use of making use of the offer, but may devise a plan later.

CHEAP COAL IN BROOKLYN.

Two Thousand Pails Sold to Poor People at Five Cents a Pail.

Signs were posted in the window of a big dry goods store at Broadway and Rockaway avenue, Brooklyn, a few days ago to the effect that, beginning with Wednesday and continuing every afternoon between the hour of 4 and 6 o'clock until the supply gave out, bucketful coal would be sold for five cents a pail.

The signs drew a crowd of over 1,000 men, women and children to the store yesterday. Baby carriages, washboilers and articles of every description were brought by the crowd. Each family was supposed to get but one pail of the coal, but many were able to get three and four pails by sending in their children one at a time.

It is estimated that about 2,000 pails of coal were sold in one hour. When the time for the sale expired, there was still a large crowd waiting in the line.

MOVE AGAINST COAL ROADS.

Pennsylvania Company Denies That It Is Any Combination or Confederacy.

ALBANY, Oct. 8.—Attorney-General Davies this afternoon adjourned until next Wednesday, at 2 P. M., the hearing upon the application of a New York newspaper that he begin proceedings to disrupt the alleged combination of coal-carrying railroads and the anthracite mine owners. C. J. Shearn, as the attorney for the complainant, was on hand at the hour set for the hearing before the Attorney-General this afternoon. The only railroad represented was the Pennsylvania, and Charles M. Ward of New York city, appeared for that company. He filed an answer for the Pennsylvania company which says that there is no combination of the coal roads.

Adjustment was taken for ten days.

BREAD UP IN BROOKLYN, TOO.

But the Hotel Bakers Have Not Raised Prices Yet and May Not Do So.

The action of the East Side bakers in increasing the price of rye bread and decreasing the size of white loaves on account of the scarcity of fuel has been imitated by bakers in the Bronx and in some sections of Brooklyn. With bread prices rising, the price of rye bread has gone up in many shops. The master bakers of Greater New York are to hold a meeting in a day or two and following their meeting the increase may become general.

WHY NOT BURN OILED BRICKS?

THERE IS AN EASY WAY OF USING THE STOVE WITHOUT COAL.

Soak a Terra Cotta Slab in Kerosene for a Few Seconds and It Will Blaze Long Enough to Cook a Dinner—Briekyard Man Who Told The Sun About It Best.

There need be no more worry about having to cook the dinner without coal. The washerwomen who didn't expect to be able to iron and heat the boiler much longer with anthracite at \$20 and more a ton may rest easy. As long as kerosene oil is cheap and the brickmakers keep at it, nobody's stove need be cold.

With one of the ordinary terra-cotta bricks with which fireproof buildings are largely constructed and less than a cent's worth of kerosene you can cook a dinner, heat the boiler and be comfortably warm for nearly an hour. With a relay of bricks and a little more kerosene the stove can be kept going all day with little more trouble than it costs to replenish the ordinary coal fire.

Why nobody proclaimed it before can hardly be explained, for the fact that very porous brick and kerosene can be used for fuel in this way has been known to the brickmakers ever since they began to manufacture these bricks years ago. But the brickmakers never thought of coming out

SHENANDOAH, Pa., Oct. 8.—The entire Second Brigade is camping in this district to-night. Col. Hulings of the Sixteenth Regiment, who is in command of the brigade during the absence of Gen. Wiley, has established his headquarters at Ashland, Gen. Gobin and his staff are still here. They will leave early to-morrow morning for their new headquarters at Wilkes-Barre.

HAZLETON, Pa., Oct. 8.—Twelve companies of the Twelfth Regiment, Col. W. P. Bowman, commanding, arrived here at an early hour this morning. While passing through Bethlehem they were met by a train, bearing the troops to this city, was stoned and several car windows were broken, but none of the occupants were hurt. Stone was also thrown at the train, a short distance from here. The coming of the troops created no excitement here.

Battalions were distributed in Lattimer, Cranberry, Jeddo and in this city, where Col. Bowman has his headquarters.

HAS'N'T HEARD FROM MITCHELL.

President May Appoint Commission Even If His Proposition Is Declined.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8.—Although the reply of John Mitchell to President Roosevelt's latest proposition for the settlement of the coal strike has not yet been received, little doubt is entertained by the President's close advisers that the reply will be unfavorable, and the discussion of the next step to be taken by the President has already begun.

It was said today on authority that the President would probably appoint a Federal commission to investigate the causes of the strike and the conditions in the anthracite region, even if Mr. Mitchell should decline to accept such action by the President as a condition of his returning to work. The proposed commission, if appointed under the act of Oct. 1, 1898, which seems to be the sole authority for its appointment, would consist of Commissioner of Labor Carlisle D. Wright and two other persons, one of whom must be a resident of Pennsylvania.

It will have the power to power precisely that (commissioner Wright had when he investigated the present strike several months ago. This power simply enables a commission to investigate the causes of the labor dispute and to report them to Congress and the President. Beyond the possible advantage of publicity, which would be given as a result of the commission's inquiry, almost the only favorable outcome that is looked for is that the President may find grounds for proposing a new proposition to the strikers.

This has been the first day for more than a week that President Roosevelt has failed to devote practically the whole time to his tireless effort to settle the coal strike in this country. He had no conference during the day. He spent the day in his study, and he was not seen by the public. The impression was given that there was no discussion of a new proposition in connection with the coal strike. It is hoped that these will accept invitations to speak. Dr. Lyman Abbott, Dr. Felix Adler and Dr. Josiah Strong.

The organizers of the meeting do not propose to disband after it is held, but may hold other meetings as long as the situation is grave.

Last night's meeting was presided over by Andrew H. Green, Mr. J. C. Samuels, who said she owned a coal mine in West Virginia, offered her coal free to the New York public through the committee. The committee did not see any use of making use of the offer, but may devise a plan later.

CHEAP COAL IN BROOKLYN.

Two Thousand Pails Sold to Poor People at Five Cents a Pail.

Signs were posted in the window of a big dry goods store at Broadway and Rockaway avenue, Brooklyn, a few days ago to the effect that, beginning with Wednesday and continuing every afternoon between the hour of 4 and 6 o'clock until the supply gave out, bucketful coal would be sold for five cents a pail.

The signs drew a crowd of over 1,000 men, women and children to the store yesterday. Baby carriages, washboilers and articles of every description were brought by the crowd. Each family was supposed to get but one pail of the coal, but many were able to get three and four pails by sending in their children one at a time.

It is estimated that about 2,000 pails of coal were sold in one hour. When the time for the sale expired, there was still a large crowd waiting in the line.